

RICH LANDS ABOUT AFRICAN MOUNTAIN

(Continued From First Page.)

Upon a great pedestal, which is more of Mount Washington, which is more of the world's highest mountains. The world's highest mountains. Kilimanjaro is one of the roof of the African continent, and it is one of the half-dozen or more peaks which rise high above the roof of the world. With the exception of Mount McKinley and certain of the Himalayas and the Andes, it is by far the highest mountain on the globe. We have nothing to compare with it in North America, and if you could put the Alleghenies on top of Mount Blanc they would not reach so high. I have gone along the Andes from Panama to Pangua and have seen all their great peaks Chimborazo, in Ecuador, is just as tall as Kilimanjaro, with the height of the Washington mountain added to it. Mount Sorata, in Bolivia, is something like 12,000 feet higher, and Aconcagua, on the borders of Chile and Argentina, is 23,000 feet, or 3,000 feet above this topmost point of Africa.

One of the greatest sights of the world is Mount Everest, which rises out of the midst of the Himalayas to a distance of almost six miles above the sea. Its actual height is 29,000 feet. I have seen it from the early morning, and I can tell you it does not compare with it. I have seen it from the early morning, and I can tell you it does not compare with it. I have seen it from the early morning, and I can tell you it does not compare with it.

The Xatiba About Kilimanjaro. During my stay here I have talked with German travelers who have explored large parts of this mountain. They tell me that the land is rich at the foot, and that it is inhabited by a number of tribes, each governed by an independent sultan or chief. There are Masai among them, who have large flocks of cattle and sheep and other tribes who engage in farming, having little fields of grain, surrounded by hedges. Some of these people irrigate their fields, carrying the water from level to level by means of canals. A little further up, Kilimanjaro is covered with dense vegetation. The air is full of orchids and other plants, and there are lions, leopards and all sorts of wild beasts. There are some elephants, and the hunting is said to be very good. Higher still the vegetation changes and becomes more like that of the temperate zone. At the altitude of Pike's Peak it is entirely, and from thence on the perpetual snow begins.

The topmost peak, known as Kibo, is always snow covered. This was first ascended by Hans Meyer in 1889. He says that it has a crater more than a mile in circumference, and over 600 feet deep, the walls of which are covered with ice. The lower peak is known as Kilimanjaro. It is just 17,600 feet high, or about as high as Popocatepetl, in Mexico.

The Port of Tanga. I wish I could show you this little African town of Tanga. It lies here on the coast, just opposite the clove island of Pemba, which belongs to Great Britain. It is in German East Africa, a few miles below the Umba River, which is part of the boundary between this country and the British East Africa. It lies at one of the mouths of the Pangani River, which rises on the slopes of Kilimanjaro, and carries away the greater part of its snows. The coast here is low and tropical, and the vegetation is so dense that the mountains cannot be seen. Indeed, there are no hills anywhere, and the eye wanders over coconut palms laden with nuts and grass lands spread here and there with fat baobab trees, whose skeleton-like branches reach out like great white fingers clutching the air.

Tanga has a beautiful harbor. The mouth of the river is such that it forms a bay of thousands of acres, well protected from the storms of the Indian Ocean. At the entrance to the bay is a point on which stands a white light house, and farther inland, a white-walled, red-roofed hospital of two stories. At the end of the bay the buildings of the city begin. They are composed of European structures and thatched-roofed huts, which are the homes of the Hindoo merchants and of the Swahili natives.

German Settlement. The town has a boma or fort, and a large iron shed, which serves as a native market. It has a post-office like those of Deutschland, and government buildings of various kinds. There is a two-story hotel with a roof garden open to it and wide verandas running around it. There is a public school where the pupils are black boys with shaved heads. They study their lessons under the pictures of the Kaiser and Kaiserin, which look down from the walls. As to that matter, however, the Emperor and Empress are ubiquitous in this part of East Africa. The officials hang their pictures in every public building, and nearly every house, store and hotel has a cheap print of the Kaiser. There are statues and busts of Bismarck at the several German ports. I have written of the great medalion of Bismarck, which is on a pyramid at the southern end of Victoria Nyanza. There is a bronze bust of him on a pedestal in the public garden at Tanga, and a rather fine statue of him at Dar es Salaam.

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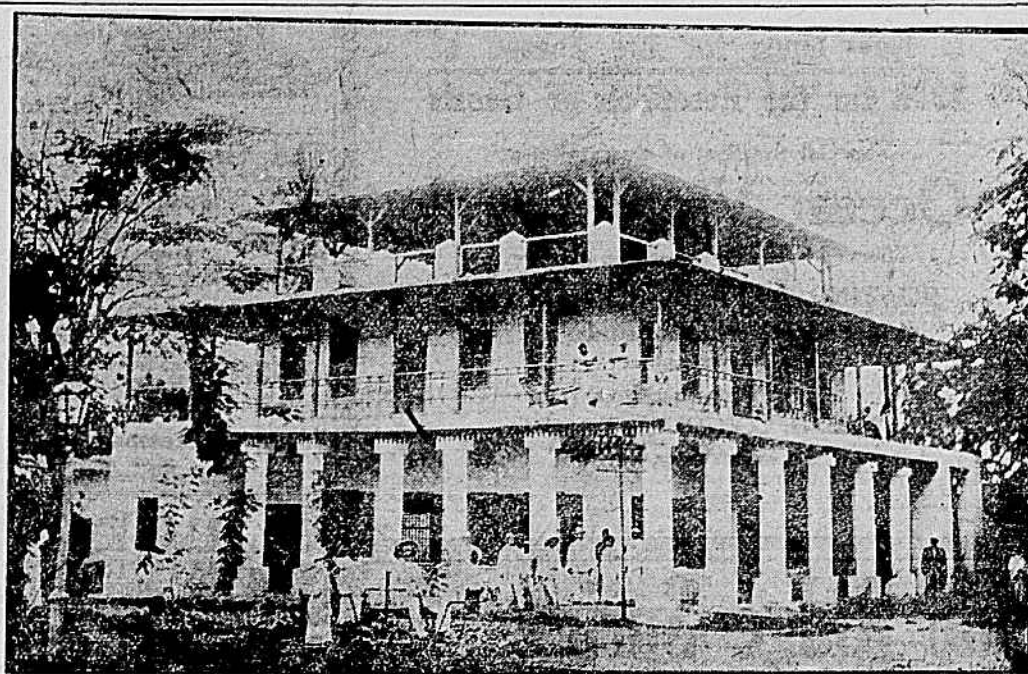
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There is a public school where the pupils are black boys with shaved heads. They study their lessons under the pictures of the Kaiser and Kaiserin, which look down from the walls. As to that matter, however, the Emperor and Empress are ubiquitous in this part of East Africa. The officials hang their pictures in every public building, and nearly every house, store and hotel has a cheap print of the Kaiser. There are statues and busts of Bismarck at the several German ports. I have written of the great medalion of Bismarck, which is on a pyramid at the southern end of Victoria Nyanza. There is a bronze bust of him on a pedestal in the public garden at Tanga, and a rather fine statue of him at Dar es Salaam.

Also valuable fibre plants. Down along the coast the Germans are now setting out coconut plantations, and are experimenting with cocoa, tobacco, vanilla and the cinchona tree, from whose bark our quinine comes.

Much of the interior of this region is not unlike the country about Lake Victoria, and many of the plains are covered with elephant grass. This grows twice as high as one's head. I have seen stalks fifteen feet tall, and on a recent trip through the interior I had myself photographed standing you their height. In the rainy season this grass often grows a foot in a night. It is much like a bamboo, having red, hairy joints like cane. It is usually burnt off at certain times of the year, and I have traveled over roads with great flames on one side of me where, if the wind had changed, I would have been in serious danger. When the grass is set afire the flames roll up in great masses. As the canes burn they burst apart, each making a noise like the shot of a pistol. The fire is accompanied by a continual crash, and the scenes are grand to an extreme. In German East Africa many of the trade routes go through grass of this kind. They consist of mere paths which wind this way and that over the country. When it rains the zebras are riding animals with the idea that they may eventually be able to outrun the native cavalry with them.

In the barracks at Dar es Salaam I was shown a half dozen zebras tied up in the stable side by side with horses. The officers told me that they had been broken to riding, and that they were easy to lead. I was shown the results of some cross between the zebra and the horse. One was a zebra mule, a year old, whose mother was a big bay mare. This animal was larger than the ordinary zebra, but it was shapely in the same way, and it had every aspect of the zebra except the white and black stripes. It was striped in black over a body of light brown. The darkest black and the whitest white. When the Lord painted him he did it in such colors that he who runs can read.

There are many zebras in the interior of German East Africa, and they are often shot and eaten by the hunters.

As to hunting, this country promises to be more popular than British East Africa, which is generally known as the land of big game. German East Africa is a part of the same plateau, and there are regions in it which swarm with antelope, zebras and other game beasts. There are many lions and leopards, as well as elephants, hippopotamuses and rhinoceroses. At present it costs \$250 for the right to shoot big game in the British possessions. The Germans issue licenses to shoot for \$3 or \$4 each, but they require a small royalty to the government on each head of game killed. The high rates are driving the sportsmen out of the lands north of here, and eventually the Germans will have the greater part of that travel.

The Pets of the Black Continent. While on the subject of animals I want to tell you about the queer pets I find in this part of Africa. Think of holding a baby leopard in your lap, or of lifting up a lion by the nape of the neck!

This is what I have seen done in the past week. The baby lion was at a hotel here. He was tied by the clothesline and I was able to pet him without being hurt. I took hold of the skin of his neck and lifted him off the ground, although it strained my arm to do so. On Lake Victoria I saw a pet hyena, and at one of the native villages found several pet antelopes. Pet sheep and goats are common among the Africans, and there are certain tribes in which a sheep will follow its master about and come to him when called. They are fat-tailed animals, with hair as coarse as that of a tin-can-ted American goat. They are usually white in color, although some are as red as a blood bay horse. In Dar es Salaam I stopped with a man who owned a pet leopard. It was only a few weeks old and was as tame as a cat.

The captain on one of the Lake Victoria steamers has several pet monkeys, a dog-faced baboon, and some parrots. The parrots have silvery gray feathers on their bodies and their wings and tails are bright red. They talk in the native language and whistle in Esperanto.

About the queerest pet bird I have yet seen on this continent is the whole-headed stork of Uganda, one of which has been sent to Khartoum and is kept there in the gardens of the Sirdar. The bird is found all around Lake Victoria, and especially at the source of the Nile. It is as big as the largest turkey gobbler, and its head looks as though it had been chopped out of a telegraph pole and then hung to its neck. This stork has long legs, and it walks about with great dignity. It looks sleepy, and it does not seem at all afraid. I took a snapshot at the bird with my camera, standing within a few feet of it at the time. It did not budge, but gazed at me with its heavy eyes as though it thought me a fool.

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City Auditor's Office,
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